Miller, Gary Miller, George Murphy (CT) Olver Paulsen Pelosi Perlmutter Pitts Reyes Rogers (KY) Rohrabacher Schrader

Smith (WA) Speier Stivers Waters

□ 1909

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 501, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall 501, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted no on H.R. 2362, the Indian Tribal Trade and Investment Demonstration Project Act of 2011 (Rep. Cole—Natural Resources).

Had I been present, I would have voted no on S. 2039, a bill to allow a State or local government to construct levees on certain properties otherwise designated as open space lands (Sen. HOEVEN—Transportation and Infrastructure).

Had I been present I would have voted yes on H.R. 3477, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 133 Hare Road in Crosby, Texas, as the Army First Sergeant David McNerney Post Office Building (Rep. POE—Oversight and Government Reform).

HONORING GEORGE DUNKLIN

(Mr. CRAWFORD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CRAWFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor George Dunklin on completing his term as an Arkansas Game and Fish commissioner. For the last 7 years, Mr. Dunklin has worked tirelessly to maintain a healthy wild-life population in Arkansas.

From the time he took office in 2005, after being appointed by Governor Mike Huckabee, Mr. Dunklin has been a devoted public servant. One of the accomplishments he's most proud of is improving and restoring water flow habitat in crucial areas. Arkansas is world renowned for duck hunting, and restoring the water flow habitats will make for a better environment for the many ducks that over winter in Arkansas.

Mr. Dunklin also worked on an agreement with the Army Corps of Engineers to provide minimum flow in the White River below Bull Shoals Dam and in the Norfork River below the Norfork dam.

Always the gentleman, Mr. Dunklin maintained a healthy balance of opposing passions on the commission. I appreciate all of Mr. Dunklin's efforts and wish him well on his future endeavors.

SENSIBLE GUN CONTROL LEGISLATION

(Mr. ENGEL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, the tragic events that happened in Aurora, Colorado just shows us in this country that if we don't have sensible gun control legislation, then shame on us; then we're the fools.

Nobody is against Second Amendment rights, and nobody is not for giving legitimate people the ability to own guns. But what the shooter was able to obtain on the Internet or in a gun shop, without any kind of background check whatsoever, to me, is unconscionable and makes no sense whatsoever.

I think that this Congress has to come together and find out what language we can put in sensible gun control legislation to make sure that when someone buys weapons, they don't have 100 and 200 and 300 and 1,000 times the amount of ammunition that they would need, that a reasonable person would need, for any reasonable event.

My heart goes out to the victims in Aurora and to their families. This tragedy should never happen again.

SEQUESTRATION TARGETS DE-PARTMENT OF DEFENSE CIVIL-IAN WORKERS

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, this month, in Politico, Todd Harrison, a defense analyst at the Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments, warned of the impacts that sequestration will have on the Department of Defense civilian work force if action is not taken.

If sequestration is implemented, Harrison warns the Department of Defense civilian employees "could see, 10, 15 or even a higher percentage being laid off or furloughed shortly after sequestration goes into effect." Over 200,000 jobs are at risk in the State of Virginia alone.

I support Armed Services Committee Chairman BUCK MCKEON's efforts to protect our national security, and also to protect up to one million jobs that will be destroyed as a result of sequestration. Job loss could be as high as 2.14 million.

With a record unemployment rate now of 8 percent for over the past 41 months, the President and Senate should adopt bills that have already been passed by the House.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

RED TAPE REDUCTION AND SMALL BUSINESS JOB CREATION ACT

(Mr. PAULSEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, over the last 3 years, the number of regulations imposed on small businesses has grown considerably. This year alone, the Federal Register has ballooned to a staggering 41,662 pages, burying our Nation's small businesses in paperwork and red tape.

But it's not all about page numbers. There are very real implications to our economic recovery as a result of the increased burden on small businesses. Nearly half of all small businesses say they aren't hiring because of red tape. They are spending vital time and energy and money on navigating the tidal wave of regulations that is coming out of Washington. These are resources that could be used to invest in new equipment and expand and hire in their payrolls.

Mr. Speaker, this week the House will take action, action aimed to freeze onerous regulations, to streamline the permitting process for construction projects, and create transparency within regulatory agencies so that employers can have more time and more energy and more resources to growing and expanding their businesses and, ultimately, creating jobs.

Mr. Speaker, it's time to help small businesses get out from under the red tape coming from Washington.

EXPRESSING SYMPATHY FOR THE VICTIMS OF THE COLORADO TRAGEDY

(Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, we all came together prayerfully last week as the tragedy in Aurora, Colorado, took place.

The State of Texas has a relationship with Colorado. We probably were of one territory some time ago. But I rise today to extend my sympathy to Congressman PERLMUTTER and the entire congressional delegation in Colorado, both House and Senate.

I also rise to offer sympathy to the victims and those fallen—families, innocent babies, children, that were injured.

And I reach out to say this: Tell the NRA to come and sit down with all of us so that this Congress can work in an effective manner, that we can begin to look at issues such as buying 6,000 rounds of ammunition on the Internet, not against the Second Amendment, but that the fact that the Internet sellers did not even have to give notice that one person was buying 6,000 rounds of ammunition. There's no Federal law on that issue. There's not even a Federal law to give notice on that issue